



UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

DRDO Delegation of Financial Powers 2026 to Fast-Track Defence R&D

30 June 2026 · SECURITY & DEFENCE · GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotesFree UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**bharatnotes.com →

ADVERTISE

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

epicbharat@gmail.com



DRDO Delegation of Financial Powers 2026 to Fast-Track Defence R&D

30 June 2026 · 3 min read

 Source: ujyari.com — researched, fact-checked & UPSC-mapped

 ✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources (<https://ujyari.com/how-we-verify/>)

WHY IN NEWS

On , Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** approved the **Delegation of Financial Powers 2026 (DFP-2026)** for the **Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D) / DRDO**, along with the **Delegation of Financial Powers to Defence Services 2026 (DFPDS-2026)**.

The reform aims to enhance efficiency, accountability and the timely execution of strategic research and development (R&D) projects by decentralising financial approvals within the defence R&D ecosystem.

WHAT DFP-2026 DOES

The **Delegation of Financial Powers 2026 (DFP-2026)** significantly enhances functional and financial empowerment at various levels within the Department of Defence R&D. Its key provisions include:

PROVISION	PURPOSE
Dedicated funds for trials, tests and evaluation	Removes funding delays in trial campaigns
Sanction of pre-project R&D	Enables early-stage exploratory research
Segregated powers for Extra-Mural Research (EMR)	Faster grants to external researchers and institutions
Segregated powers for DIA-CoE	Streamlined funding for innovation centres of excellence
Segregated powers for Technology Development Fund (TDF)	Quicker support to start-ups and MSMEs

Here, **EMR** refers to grants-in-aid for research projects carried out outside DRDO laboratories; **DIA-CoE** stands for **Defence Innovation Accelerator - Centres of Excellence** (the DRDO industry-academia centres of excellence); and the **Technology Development Fund (TDF)** supports indigenous development of defence technologies by Indian industry, especially start-ups and MSMEs.

THE COMPANION REFORM: DFPDS-2026

Alongside DFP-2026, the Defence Minister released the **Delegation of Financial Powers to Defence Services 2026 (DFPDS-2026)**. It seeks to expedite defence procurement by enabling quicker financial approvals and operational decision-making across the armed forces, the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Together, the two frameworks target the twin bottlenecks of slow R&D funding and slow procurement approvals.

ABOUT DRDO

- DRDO is the **research and development wing of the Ministry of Defence**.
- Founded in **1958**.
- Headquartered in **New Delhi**.
- It develops indigenous defence systems, platforms and technologies across missiles, aeronautics, naval systems, electronics and materials.

ANALYSIS AND WAY FORWARD

Defence R&D projects have historically suffered from long approval chains and time overruns. By delegating financial powers closer to the point of execution, DFP-2026 is designed to compress timelines from laboratory to induction, letting systems and platforms reach the armed forces faster.

The reform strengthens the **civil-military-industry-academia** innovation linkage. Segregated funding streams for EMR, DIA-CoE and TDF widen the innovation base beyond DRDO's own laboratories to universities, start-ups and MSMEs. This directly advances **Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance)** in defence, reducing import dependence and building a domestic defence-technology base.

The way forward lies in transparent implementation, robust project monitoring so that greater delegation does not dilute accountability, and sustained collaboration with private industry and academic institutions.

UPSC RELEVANCE

GS Paper 3: Science and Technology; **indigenisation** (<https://ujiyari.com/vocab/indigenisation/>) of technology and developing new technology; achievements of Indians in science; defence and internal security.

Prelims pointers:

- DFP-2026 and DFPDS-2026 approved on June 29, 2026 by Rajnath Singh.
- DRDO: R&D wing of the Ministry of Defence; founded 1958; HQ New Delhi.
- EMR (Extra-Mural Research), DIA-CoE (Defence Innovation Accelerator - Centres of Excellence), TDF (Technology Development Fund).
- Linked to Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence.

Mains question: “Delegating financial powers within the defence R&D ecosystem can accelerate indigenous technology development but must be balanced with accountability. Examine in the context of DFP-2026 and India’s Aatmanirbhar Bharat goal in defence. (15 marks, 250 words)”

FACTS CORNER

★ FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

DFP-2026: Delegation of Financial Powers 2026 for the Department of Defence R&D (DDR&D) / DRDO, approved June 29, 2026.

Approved by: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

Companion reform: DFPDS-2026 (Delegation of Financial Powers to Defence Services 2026) to speed up armed-forces procurement.

Key empowerments: dedicated funds for trials and tests; sanction of pre-project R&D; segregated powers for EMR, DIA-CoE and TDF.

EMR: Extra-Mural Research grants for projects outside DRDO labs.

DIA-CoE: Defence Innovation Accelerator - Centres of Excellence (industry-academia centres).

TDF: Technology Development Fund supporting Indian industry, start-ups and MSMEs.

DRDO: R&D wing of the Ministry of Defence; founded 1958; headquartered in New Delhi.

Goal: Advances Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance) in defence.

Sources: *Press Information Bureau* (<https://www.pib.gov.in/>), *ANI News* (<https://www.aninews.in/>), *Business Standard* (<https://www.business-standard.com/>)

Source: DRDO Delegation of Financial Powers 2026 to Fast-Track Defence R&D — Ujjiyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

RELATED EDITORIALS

Ujjiyari Current Affairs · ujjiyari.com · Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

THE HINDU

[Preparing India for China's Missile Challenge](#)

30 Jun

THE HINDU

[Operation Sindoor: Gains, Losses and Deterrence](#)

30 Jun

DOWN TO EARTH

[Environmental Security Must Be a National Priority](#)

27 Jun

THE HINDU

[PACOM and the Dropped Prefix: What a US Strategic Recalibration Means for India](#)

25 Jun

RELATED KEY TERMS

KEY TERM

[Advanced Technology Vessel \(ATV\) Programme](#)

India's classified, decades-long programme to indigenously design and...

KEY TERM

[AFSPA \(Armed Forces Special Powers Act\)](#)

A central legislation granting special powers to armed forces...

KEY TERM

[AMCA \(Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft\)](#)

India's indigenous fifth-generation stealth fighter programme, for...

KEY TERM

[Article 355](#)

Constitutional provision making it the duty of the Union to protect...

Ujiyari Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · **Free Daily** Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/daily/2026/06/30/drdo-delegation-financial-powers-2026/>

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing → bharatnotes.com](https://bharatnotes.com)

📌 OPPORTUNITY

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

Ideal for: Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · bharatnotes.com